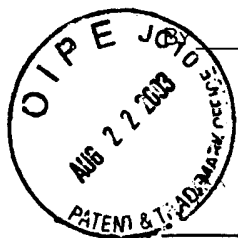


41

1731

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING
DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS
FIRST-CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER
FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450
ON THIS 20 DAY OF AUGUST, 2003



Richard M. Beck

4981*294 (PM-1944)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

LIXIN XUE ET AL.

SERIAL NO.: 09/839,760

FILED: APRIL 20, 2001

FOR: CIGARETTE FILTERS OF SHAPED
MICRO CAVITY FIBERS
IMPREGNATED WITH FLAVORANT
MATERIALS

ART UNIT: 1731

EXAMINER: D. A. WALLS

RECEIVED
AUG 26 2003
TC 1700

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the outstanding Office Action dated June 17, 2003, kindly amend the
above identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on
page 2 of this response.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this response.